

She had time in the last years of her life, “The Conservative Case for Trump” that is published. I think of the work that she got done. If somebody said to me: “Well, Donald Trump is going to be the nominee”—and we maybe know this about the time of the Indiana primary—“why don’t you just go out and write a book and publish that?”—to pull that off and get that done, to do that when you are 92.

I recall the time when Phyllis broke her hip and she was in a hospital in St. Louis.

□ 1900

So, I thought, I need to talk to Phyllis. I just want to wish her well. I call her up and, yes, she is in a hospital bed all right, but already, first thing when she comes out from the anesthetic, she asked for her laptop. She is at the hospital bed with a laptop, no doubt writing, producing documents, printing things, moving public policy in America from the hospital bed.

On another occasion, I had the privilege to be named to present an award to Phyllis here in Washington, D.C. It was at an event at a hotel here in town. So, I am thinking: How do I make this work? Actually, my schedule wouldn’t work for that. I thought: I can’t let Phyllis down.

Then, I learned that Phyllis had hurt her back and she had gone in for back surgery. I said: I think I know how to do this. I will tape a video for the people that are there to commemorate Phyllis, and then I will go visit her in St. Louis on my way back to Iowa.

I flew to St. Louis and went to the nursing home where she was recovering from this back surgery. Her lap was covered with books and works and things we know. She sat there and told me how, yes, they had to put some cement in her back. I said: Just like it comes out of the truck? Well, pretty much, she said: They just go in there and fill in the gaps that I have, and now I have to take a little therapy and I will be fine.

Well, she was fine, mentally. This woman had an aura about her. There was a radiance about her. I can only name three people that I have laid eyes on in my lifetime that when they were in the room you knew it; and you knew there was something emanating from the character, the spirit, the soul, and the intellect of Phyllis Schlafly. It is extraordinary. It is an extraordinary life.

I know that one of her close friends was LOUIE GOHMERT, who is here tonight on the floor. I yield to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. GOHMERT) to say a few words about Phyllis.

Mr. GOHMERT. What a woman. What a person.

Phyllis Schlafly led efforts to return America to being the shining light on a hill that it had been, but the light was dimming. She would see that. She could see the harm that was happening to our most vulnerable, and she led an effort more years than anybody that I

have ever known personally to return America to being a citadel for freedom and for morality from which freedom can only grow. She saw us losing our way, yet she remained relentless.

Those who despised her know better than most anyone else this is someone who would never, ever give up. She was a leader, a warrior, a mentor, and a friend. Like very dear friends, like family, you have disagreements sometimes, but you know her heart. You knew she wanted what was best for you, for this country, for the world.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I would interject; when I disagreed with Phyllis, I started with the assumption that I was probably wrong.

Mr. GOHMERT. That is a great assumption when it comes to Phyllis.

Well, she has fought the good fight, she has finished her course, and she has kept the faith. I will be there Saturday morning with her family, but the best memorial we can give to Phyllis Schlafly is to make sure the light of freedom and morality does not die in America.

Mr. KING of Iowa. I thank the gentleman from Texas for a very moving presentation here. I know that it means something very deeply in his heart, as it does in ours here on this floor and across this country by the thousands.

A couple of things that I want to just quickly inject into this discussion.

She would want me to say on article 3, section 2, Court stripping, we don’t need to genuflect to the supremacists. The Court has gotten out of control. The Constitution is set up to where they are to be the weakest of the three branches of government, not a superior supremacist branch of government.

Phyllis handed me the manuscript to this book, as I had a lot of long plane flights to do. The manuscript was just printed off a copy machine and kind of clipped together. I worked through all of that. I wrote my edits on it, my notes in the margins, red ink. I worked through it for hours—in fact, it was days. It got lost on the plane on the way back from Africa.

I went to her and said: Phyllis, I need a little more time to work on the edits of your book because the manuscript has been lost in the luggage. She looked at me and she said: Well, Congressman, I didn’t intend for you to edit my book. I just intended for you to have an early copy. I knew exactly what I wanted to say.

The book stands out. She knew exactly what she wanted to say. That is a lot about her intellect and her personality.

With utter clarity, the clearest political thinker of our time, based in Biblical values, values of Christians, constitutional values, a clear understanding of people and humanity and faith and family, she wrote on so many topics with utter clarity on topic, after topic, after topic.

She lived a life of 92 years and was a player in the public arena since imme-

diately post-World War II, and she is a player in our lives to this day. She is in our hearts, she is in our souls, she is in our conscience, and she affects our thinking and our actions—and she will for a long, long time to come.

This is a woman who has redirected the destiny of America. I can’t think of any woman who had more impact on the course of the history in the United States of America nor weighs more heavily on our sense of duty of what we need going forward to continue to honor the glorious life of Phyllis Schlafly.

Rest in peace, Phyllis. God love you. We do.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

LEAVE OF ABSENCE

By unanimous consent, leave of absence was granted to:

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today.

Mr. LYNCH (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 3 p.m. and the balance of the week on account of official business.

Mr. SWALWELL of California (at the request of Ms. PELOSI) for today after 3:30 p.m. and the balance of the week on account of brother’s wedding.

ADJOURNMENT

Mr. KING of Iowa. Madam Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The motion was agreed to; accordingly (at 7 o’clock and 6 minutes p.m.), the House adjourned until tomorrow, Friday, September 9, 2016, at 9 a.m.

EXECUTIVE COMMUNICATIONS, ETC.

Under clause 2 of rule XIV, executive communications were taken from the Speaker’s table and referred as follows:

6692. A letter from the Congressional Review Coordinator, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Viruses, Serums, Toxins, and Analogous Products; Packaging and Labeling [Docket No.: APHIS-2008-0008] (RIN: 0579-AD19) received August 30, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6693. A letter from the Acting Director, PDRA Rural Utilities Service, Department of Agriculture, transmitting the Department’s interim rule — Rural Broadband Access Loans and Loan Guarantees (RIN: 0572-AC34) received September 1, 2016, pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 801(a)(1)(A); Public Law 104-121, Sec. 251; (110 Stat. 868); to the Committee on Agriculture.

6694. A letter from the Under Secretary, Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics, Department of Defense, transmitting an Update to the Report on Efficient Utilization of Department of Defense Real Property, pursuant to Public Law 113-66, Sec. 2814(a); (127 Stat. 1014); to the Committee on Armed Services.

6695. A letter from the Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Office of the Secretary, Department of Defense, transmitting the Department’s final rule — Interpretive Rule Under the Military Lending Act